

much encouragement in looking for the good, for there *is* good in the world as well as evil. There are hearts full of sweet charities and souls peopled with loving angels, and it cheers our weary hearts in the great conflict of life to know that there are such in the world. Not all hearts are filled with anger, hatred, envy, jealousy and selfishness. We find much comfort in such words as these from one who while recognizing the existing evils, yet takes a hopeful view of the present condition of the world :

The signs are not few that, in spite of wars and tumults and the bitterness of strife between men, the world does move toward the reign of peace and good will ; and the signs are many, to those who choose to see them, that the Christ who was in Bethlehem, in the lowliest of surroundings and the most unpretentious conditions, is in the world today, clad in humility and clothed in the garb of obscurity. . . . The world was never so full of humble, unostentatious, Christian service as today. Beneath the uproar of contending principles and the clash of opposing forces, which seem sometimes to fill the whole world with the tumult of their antagonisms, there is another world, full of pain and sorrow and heavy with care, but full also of the sweetness of sacrifice, the joy of surrender, and the peace of unselfishness. In this silent world live and move men and women of all social grades and conditions, with little in common save a beautiful spirit of self surrender, and that modesty of nature which shrinks from praise because praise seems undeserved. He who looks for Christ in this world will find him in numberless homes and in countless lives.

#### Money Cannot Do It

Col. Waring estimates that it will take ten million dollars to clean up the city of Havana, and eradicate the deadly malaras and fevers which make it the pest hole of the western hemisphere. A much more needed cleansing of a far deadlier contagion prevails in more cities than Havana, and there is not enough money in the world to do the work. But the 'blood of Jesus Christ cleanseth from all sin.'

#### Raise the Spiritual Temperature

The heat was shut off from a Lutheran church in New York recently to prevent a church quarrel which was expected to come off that day. This ruse postponed the trouble, but it could not remove the cause. What they want to do is to raise the spiritual temperature of the church. It has evidently been too cold this long time.

Absolutely pure is the claim made in every advertisement of the Royal Baking Powder and absolutely pure is the verdict of every housekeeper in the land using the Royal. It is the standard among baking powders, worth the price sold at, because of its purity, healthful bread-making qualities and the strength that makes a small quantity go a long way. No trouble about delicious biscuit and pastry when the Royal is used.

## Brief Notes

A man is honest to the core when he prefers to be understood rather than idealized.

A memory like a sieve would be an awfully good thing if it would only let the evil fall thro and retain the good.

Petroleum drinking has become a fashionable fad in Paris, France, which is a new phase of the insanity of godlessness.

Activity in church work is beautiful as one of the fruits of piety, but as a substitute for piety it is like putting the moon for the sun.

Your book may bear one reading and your adventure one telling, but the miracle of Christianity is that Christ is a theme forever as fresh as the dew and as beautiful as the dawn.

The man who can invent a method by which two gods can be served successfully would soon be worshipped as a third. Fashionable piety would defy him in forty-eight hours.

A big liquor trust has just been organized in New York which controls all the great distilleries in the country. Ye Christian men of America, stand up and look at this covenant between death and hell, and make up your minds what you are going to do about it.

Sharkey is said to have made \$20,000 in his recent fight with McCoy, which goes to show that we are not so far removed from the gorilla age as we had fondly supposed. Upon the average, the agents of civilization, its preachers and teachers, do not get that much money out of their labor in twenty years.

A Chicago mother last week gave all her life earnings to deliver her son from jail. But Christ gave his life to deliver us. Suppose that boy should be ungrateful toward that self-sacrificing mother, what would you think of him?

A wholesale liquor house in New York burned down, the other day, and consumed one of its employees. The poor fellow perished more quickly but not more surely than the millions who are daily being consumed with the diabolical thirst. Down with the saloon.

An Irish laborer in New York fell heir to a fortune of \$8,000 into which he was to enter the first day of the new year. To celebrate his good luck he drank long and deep on the previous night, so long and deep that the next morning found him—dead. "Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee, then whose shall those things be which thou hast provided?"

Twelve Cuban political prisoners were found in the Havana jails forty eight hours after the flag of liberty, the stars and stripes, had been unfurled over the city. But how many spiritual prisoners there are, men in bondage to sin, who have never availed themselves of the liberty of the sons of God, tho the banner of that glorious liberty has been waving over them for years.

The receipts of the operas in the city of Pittsburg for the last week reached \$75 000. Single performances with receipts of from \$11,000 to \$12,000 have become customary. And this is accepted as an evidence of prosperity. It is proof of but one thing: That there is a great deal more demand for foolishness in that city than for religion.

Smart Young Skeptic.—"I never saw any of those miracles your Bible tells about; I never saw anybody raised from the dead, and I never saw that alleged resurrection of Christ. Until I see such things I will not believe."

Mild Quaker.—"Hast ever seen thine own brain?"

Smart Young Skeptic.—"No"

Mild Quaker.—"Dost believe thou hast any?"

A half million dollars of English money to build the Gordon Memorial College at Kartoum, upper Egypt, in which among other things the Mohammedan religion is to be taught, is one of the queer

things of modern civilization. The Mohammedan religion is and always has been one of the clogs of civilization, and why a Christian nation should want it taught in a college built by Christian money and named for General Gordon, the Christian hero, is difficult for ordinary minds to understand.

Civil Service examinations, open to all, will be held in most large towns in March, to get clerks for Uncle Sam. Persons wishing to know the dates and places and how the positions can be obtained can write Columbian Correspondence College, Washington, D. C., and same will be furnished without cost.

An unregarded train order resulted in a fearful wreck near New York City last week, in which a number of people were killed and crippled. More numerous and far worse are the wrecks which result by disregarding God's orders.

Fifty-four inmates of a Kentucky orphan asylum were poisoned by the use of impure milk in the cooking. This is dreadful, and of course the law provides severe penalties against diseased and adulterated foods. But such a small matter as the saloon which poisons millions may be tolerated with comfort if it only pays for the privilege.

Russia has a law forbidding the Jews from giving their children other than Biblical names, which however is soon to be repealed. But the law forbidding Christians from giving their children other than Biblical characters has not been repealed. "Bring up your children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord."

Keely of the celebrated Keely Motor died without revealing the secret of his invention, but a compressed air apparatus hidden under the floor of his laboratory is thought to be the secret. Thus we are told that the judgment which follows death will bring to light every hidden thing, every secret of sin, every crooked fraud by which men have deceived others and their own souls as well. How wise it is to have nothing in our lives which we would not be willing to reveal right now, in the broad light of day.

The latest pulpit sensation is a mulatto boy five years old in New York who preaches to large congregations. He has an eye to business, too, for he offers his photographs at 25 cents apiece. The poor little fellow is prompted by his parents, who also have an eye to business, but not withstanding that it is a transparent fraud considerable numbers go to hear the baby preach, and the cash income of the enterprise supports the whole family. Barnum was right when he said that the American people dearly loved to be humbugged, and it looks as if the religious humbugs are the most popular.

Lord Salisbury the British prime minister promises the Czar the cordial support of his government in the disarmament scheme. His lordship will probably attend the Congress in person. It promises to be a notable gathering of the world's greatest statesmen, and truly the object proposed is worthy of the ablest and most enlightened statesmanship. It is not generally expected however that any very considerable results will immediately follow, but at the least it will be a long step in the right direction, and will doubtless be followed by other and more successful efforts. Let Christians the world over pray for the success of this Congress. God can do great things even against great difficulties.

Seek to bless the world, and the world will misunderstand, defame, persecute, hound you. Every God-sent man has had this experience, and will have it to the end of time. It is a mark of his divine call that notwithstanding all this he can joyfully go on his way seeking to bless the world.

Much depends upon the point of view; temporal fortune or misfortune will neither of them be apparent in the light of eternity. What will it matter a thousand years from now whether everything came your way or went the other way? But a simple service, a word spoken in season, a dime or a dollar given to a good cause, may then stand out bigger than all the mountains of time. Be wise.